GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2076
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2008
DISTRIBUTION OF BHOODAN LAND
Athawale Shri Ramdas

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of land under Bhoodan available for distribution to landless people in the country,State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government has issued any directions to State Governments for its distribution to landless people;and

(c) if so,the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a) to (c): As per information received from the States,5.01 lakh acres of Bhoodan Land is available for distribution to the eligible rural poor.The State-wise details are indicated in the Annexure.

Land reforms related issues essentially fall in the domain of the State Governments.The Central Government has a limited role to play, being mainly advisory in nature. Implementation of land reforms programmes including distribution of Bhoodan land is reviewed from time to time at various fora,including Conferences of the Revenue Ministers/Secretaries of States and UTs organized by the Ministry of Rural Development.The State Governments have been requested for distribution of available Bhoodan land to the eligible rural poor by preparing action plans.

In order to get comprehensive recommendations on issues related to land reforms,it has been decided to constitute the following:

(i) A "Committee on State Agrarian Relations and the Unfinished Task in Land Reforms" under the chairmanship of Minister of Rural Development.

(ii) A "National Council for Land Reforms" under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister.

The composition, terms of reference etc.of the Committee and the Council were notified in the Official Gazette on 9th January, 2008.

One of the terms of reference of the Committee is to review the progress of distribution of Bhoodan land in the States and suggest measures for distribution of the remaining Bhoodan land to the landless.The Committee is yet to submit its report.

The Council may lay down broad guidelines and policy recommendations on land reforms including distribution of Bhoodan land,based on the recommendations of the Committee.However,it is not possible to indicate specific time line for the purpose.

Annexure referred to in reply to Lok Sanha Unstarred Question No.2076 for answer on 12th December,2008

(Area in lakh acres)

S.No.	State	Bhoodan land available for distribution
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.42
2.		

Assam
Nil

3.
Bihar
1.53

4.
Chhattisgarh
0.01
5.
Gujarat
0.07

6.
Haryana
Nil

7.
Himachal Pr.
Neg.

8.
J&K
Neg.
9.
Jharkhand
NR

10.
Karnataka
0.07

11.
Kerala
NIL

12.
Madhya Pr.
0.31

13.
Maharashtra
0.77

14.
Orissa
0.59

15.
Punjab
0.04@

16.
Rajasthan
0.01

17.
Tamil Nadu
0.03

18.
Tripura
No Bhoodan land
in the State

19.
Uttar Pradesh
0.16

20.
West Bengal
No Bhoodan land available

TOTAL
5.01

@Area not taken possession
Including Uttarakhand